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IN THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Previously cancelled)

21. (Original) An apparatus for dialing a communication terminal comprising:

a memory for storing a plurality of directory entries corresponding to a plurality of communication terminals;

an input for entering a string of alphanumeric digits corresponding to one of said plurality of communication terminals;

a comparator for comparing said string, as each digit is entered, to the plurality of directory entries;

a display for displaying one or more matching directory entries as each digit is entered;

a selector component for selecting one of said matching directory entries; and

a dialer component for dialing the communication terminal corresponding to said selected entry.

22. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 21, further including a counter for counting the digits entered, and said comparator being responsive to said counter when a pre-determined number of digits is entered.

23. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said directory entries comprise a number and a name, said name being mapped to digits.

24. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said comparator includes a component for comparing said entered digits to the number for each of said directory entries and a component for comparing said entered digits to the digits mapped to the name for each of said directory entries.

25. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 24, wherein said additional entry comprises another digit entered using said input.

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26. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein said additional entry comprises a navigational key entry.

27. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein said component for selecting comprises a navigational key.

28. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the communication terminal includes one or more line keys, and said component for dialing is responsive to one of the line keys being selected.

29. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein the communication terminal includes a handset, and said component for dialing is responsive to said handset going off-hook.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for dialing a communication terminal comprising:

- storing a plurality of directory entries corresponding to a plurality of communication terminals;

- entering a string of alphanumeric digits corresponding to one of said plurality of communication terminals;

- comparing said string, as each digit is entered, to the plurality of directory ~~director~~ entries;

- displaying one or more matching directory entries as each digit is entered;

- selecting one of said matching directory entries; and

- dialing the communication terminal corresponding to said selected entry.

31. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 30, further including the step of counting the digits received, and said step of comparing said entered digits being performed when a pre-determined number of digits are received.

32. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein said additional input is provided by a navigational input.

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33. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein said additional input comprises one or more digits entered by a user, and said additional digits result in a single entry matching the digits entered by the user.

34. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein said entries comprise a number and a name, said name being mapped to digits on a key pad.

35. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein said step of comparing includes comparing said entered digits to the number for each of said entries and comparing said entered digits to the digits mapped to the name for each of said entries.

36. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 35, wherein said step of dialing is responsive to an off-hook state in the communication terminal.

37. (Original) A system for dialing a communication terminal comprising:
 means for storing a plurality of directory entries corresponding to a plurality of communication terminals;
 means for inputting a string of alphanumeric digits corresponding to one of said plurality of communication terminals;
 means for comparing said string, as each digit is entered, to said plurality of directory entries;
 means for displaying one or more matching directory entries as each digit is entered;
 means for selecting one of said matching directory entries; and
 means for dialing the communication terminal corresponding to said selected entry.

38. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 37, further including means for counting the digits inputted, and said means for comparing being responsive to said means for counting for comparing said inputted digits when a pre-determined count is reached.

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39. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 38, wherein said entries comprise a number and a name, said name being mapped to digits on a key pad.

40. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 39, wherein said means for comparing includes means for comparing said inputted digits to said number for each of said entries and means for comparing said inputted digits to the digits mapped to said name for each of said entries.